

SOME
OBJECTIONS

Against the

Treaty of *Seville*,

CONSIDER'D;

In a LETTER to a
NOBLE PEER.

*Pulchrum est consulere Patriæ, parcere Afflictis,
ferâ Cæde abstinere, tempus atque Iræ dare,
Orbi quietem, Sæculo pacem suo: hæc Summa
Virtus.*



1053



L O N D O N :

Printed for T. Worrall, at Judge Coke's Head
near the Temple-Exchange Coffee-House, in
Fleet-street. M.DCC.XXX.

(Price Six-pence.)

B. 20.27.30.3285

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SOME
OBJECTIONS

Against the

Treaty of *Seville*,

CONSIDER'D.

MY LORD,



Congratulate Your
Lordship upon the
Conclusion of the
Treaty of *Seville*.

I am sorry to see a Peace so soon
broken by a Paper War; and that

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there

there should be a fierce Dispute, whether this Treaty be Just, Honourable, or Advantageous.

It is to be lamented, that Persons of high Dignity and Station should descend to Terms of Ignominy and Reproach, to make sport for the Rabble, and inspire the People with a Hatred and Contempt of their Superiors.

Men ought to examine Things without Passion or Partiality. If the Treaty be Wise, Just and Good, it will defend itself, and the Events will justify it : If it be otherwise, it is no matter how many write for it or against it ; for the Experience of the ill Consequences of it, will confute all the Wit, Rhetorick and Reasoning, that can be used to defend it.

These

These are Affairs of an high nature, that ought to be consider'd with great Judgment, Caution and Leisure, before we approve or condemn a Transaction of such Importance by any definitive Sentence.

It is certainly very lawful and commendable for any Man, to give his Judgment in Publick Affairs, provided he regards Truth, Decency, and the Publick Good; and doth not imbitter his Pen with Virulence, Faction, and Personal Reflections.

I shall for once endeavour myself to give an Example of this kind, having no Byas, Interest, or Affection, to determine me on either side of the

Question, except that which every one ought to have, the Desire of the Publick Good: For it is the Interest, not only of every Man in *England*, but in *Europe*, to desire that this Treaty may prove such as it was, without doubt, intended, by those who made it: *i.e.* Just, Honourable, and conducing to the Tranquillity and Happiness of all *Europe*.

It cannot be denied but that there are many material Objections against it, the Substance of which, with respect to the main Intention of the Treaty, (for with the lesser Particulars I don't intend to meddle) I think may be comprehended in what followeth.

It

It may be remembred what happened with relation to the Partition-Treaty concluded with *France* before the Demise of the late King of *Spain*. This Instance, one would think, should make it imprudent, if not dangerous, to dispose of the Dominions of Princes in their Life-time. It hath been received as a Maxim, That Princes do not love their Successors, not even their own Children, much less are they pleased to have their Dominions settled in Reversion without their own Consent. This Treaty of Partition caused the Court of *Spain* to throw themselves into the Arms of the *French* King. He took them into his Protection, and contrary to his Faith, Honour and Interest, supported them.

Who

Who therefore can think it strange, that if in the present Conjunction, those Princes of *Italy*, whose Dominions are dispos'd of by the late Treaty, should either in Resentment or Imprudence, receive Imperial Garrisons, make another Disposition of their Dominions, in Concert with the Emperor, more agreeable to their own Sentiments, more suitable to the Inclination of their Subjects, and more adapted to the real or supposed Interest of their Neighbouring States? It is very far from being improbable, that they should follow this or some such like Measures: And who can doubt, but that his Imperial Majesty hath both the Will and the Power to support his own
and

some. More Restrictions and Limitations may be added without any Breach of the Treaty.

It is not to be doubted, but that there are Measures taken to persuade the Dukes to consent to it, and even to influence the Emperor to make use of his Power, to persuade them to agree to it: For it is his Interest, as I think hath been proved beyond all Contradiction. It is impossible to believe, that the Ministry, as foolish and as wicked as they are represented, should design by this Treaty, to bring a new War upon the Nation. They must be stark mad, if instead of composing the Differences of *Europe*, they should take all this Pains to raise new Troubles, to disturb and confound it. No

C Man

Man can believe that they intended any Mischief to their Country by this Treaty, whatever the Event may be. For an old War is as much preferable to a new one, as an Evil known is better than one unknown.

It can't therefore but be thought reasonable to give the Ministers Time to perfect and compleat what they have begun, and to suspend our Judgments now the Foundation is laid, till the Building is perfected. They ought not to have it to say, in their Vindication, that any one hath given them any Hindrance or Molestation; their Scheme, if it be bad, will prove itself abortive, and come to nought. The Opposition given them without Reason, only addeth to their Reputation.

It

It is a great Thing to compose the Affairs of *Europe* after so much Confusion and Disorder. It is not to be done in a Moment, but by gentle Steps and Degrees. Few Persons know the Difficulties that attend so great an Affair, neither is it fit that they should know them: The Evil is sufficient for them that do know it, and *undergo the Trouble of it.*

I have not advanced any Thing upon this Subject, but what is my real Judgment and Persuasion; neither do I intend to please or displease any Person in the World. If what I have written, contributeth to pacify Men's Minds, and to allay that Spirit of Discord and Contention

tion that now reigns, I have all the End I desire : I can have done no harm, if I do no good.

When this Treaty is perfected and takes place, we may expect to see a settled and lasting Peace in *Europe*. If the Emperor, the Kings of *Great Britain, France, Spain*, and the *States General* maintain a Friendship, and good Agreement, it will not be in the power of any Hero, whether small or great, to disturb or plague us.

Another Blessing, which we may expect, when this Treaty hath its full Effect, is, that our Heroes in Politicks and News will be quite demolished ; that the Liberty of the Pen and the
 Press

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Press may be preserv'd, without
any detriment to the Publick:
and that all Men may speak and
publish what they please, without
Mischief to any one but them-
selves

These two last Paragraphs have
rais'd my Contempt and Indig-
nation, therefore I can write no
more with any Temper or Dis-
cretion.

MY LORD,

I am your Lordship's

most Obedient,

Humble Servant,

POST

POSTSCRIPT

That the Peace may be general, and that no part of *Europe* may remain disturbed, I humbly propose, That ample Satisfaction may be given to his *Prussian* Majesty, for all the enormous Injuries he hath received. He shall have twenty, or, if he pleaseth, thirty of our tallest and best Politicians, Journalists, and News-writers, with an experienced General Officer to command them. They will be of singular use to him, in getting Possession of the Dutchies of *Fuliers* and *Bergen*; for they are the best Engineers and Miners in the World. They can blow up the
the

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the strongest Fortrefs, without making any Approaches. With their Stink-Pots they can poison the Inhabitants of a whole City, and oblige them to surrender at Discretion. These Gentlemen have likewise an infallible Expedient to change an Elective Monarchy into an Hereditary one. This, I think, is all that is necessary to secure the Peace of the North.

FINIS.



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